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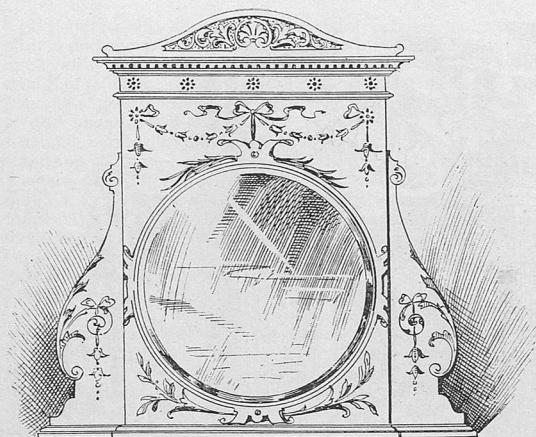
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A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN'S HOME.



AN OVERMANTEL
WITH POKERWORK DECORATION

similar articles in leather treated in the manner referred to come out well, and have a very high-class appearance.

So much for a brief chat upon a subject which will be found most fascinating by those who will take the trouble to experiment on the lines suggested. There is little more to be said with regard to it, as I believe that experience is the best teacher, and a little practice will reveal more possibilities, and show what to cultivate and what to avoid, far better than any multiplication of words on my part could do.

DECORATIVE NOTES.

A NOVELTY which is just appearing in the upholstery shops was invented and is manufactured by a woman. It is a curtain ring, to which is attached a sort of double-fish-hook arrangement. The curtain or portiere is suspended directly from this, thus doing away with the old-style pins. The most inexperienced housekeeper can also box-pleat draperies without trouble.

IN the same line, but entirely different, is a new curtain pole, in which the rings, instead of traveling on the outside, are carried on a small rod inside, the fastening for the draperies projecting through a slit in the bottom of the pole. This allows of any amount of high relief ornamentation, without interfering with the easy working of the rings.

PICTURE rods are also being introduced which are made on the same principle, the hooks being concealed. They are ornamented with designs to match, on a smaller scale, the patterns of the curtain or portiere poles, and are colored or bronzed in shades harmonizing with the general decorations of the room.



THE question of the "nest" is fully as important to a truly elegant woman as is that of clothes and beautifiers, and when I say "nest" I do not mean merely the more personal boudoir or sleeping-room, but also every nook and corner of the house, for it is from the way in which our entire home is arranged that people can judge not only the amount of taste which we possess, but our very innermost nature. A woman of refinement and delicacy will naturally, whatever her social position or her financial situation

surround herself with pleasing objects gracefully arranged, and especially characterized by the most scrupulous cleanliness.

Womanly influence should be felt in every detail, from the artistic draping of a curtain to the coloring of a pincushion, the grouping of cut flowers, or the folding of the dinner napkins. There are half a hundred small "nothings" easy to make or to procure, and very inexpensive, but yet which wonderfully improve the homelike aspect of a household, and which are in themselves sufficient to denote the interest taken by the lady of the house in her "menage." It is not by any means always the wealthiest establishments that are the best furnished, and I have frequently seen, comparatively speaking, humble dwellings which delighted every sense of comfort and every artistic inclination of the on-looker.

I propose to give here a few hints as to the manner in which the different rooms of a moderately large house should be furnished and decorated, steering clear of too much luxury, as also of too great a parsimony.

A
SIDEBOARD
WITH POKERWORK
DECORATION

